

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Replied by E/OSI
27 Jan 53
JMP

January 24, 1953

Dear Mr. Lay:

I have today established a Committee, to be known as the President's Committee on International Information Activities.

I have authorized and directed it to make a survey and evaluation of the international information policies and activities of the Executive Branch of the Government and of policies and activities related thereto with particular reference to the international relations and the national security of this country. It shall make recommendations to me for such legislative, administrative, or other action, respecting the said policies and activities as in its opinion may be desirable.

It has long been my conviction that a unified and dynamic effort in this field is essential to the security of the United States and of the other peoples in the community of free nations.

The Committee's final report and recommendations are to be in my hands not later than June 30, 1953, and the Committee will cease to operate thirty days after submitting its final report.

All executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government are authorized and directed, as a matter of common concern, to cooperate with the Committee in its work and to furnish the Committee with such assistance not inconsistent with law as it may require in the performance of its functions. The establishment of this Committee and the scope of its inquiry were discussed at the Cabinet meeting Friday morning and received full and complete support.

I am today appointing the following as members of the Committee:

William H. Jackson, Chairman
Robert Cutler, Administrative Assistant to the President
C. D. Jackson, representing the Secretary of State
Sigurd Larmon, representing the Director for Mutual Security
Gordon Gray
Barklie McKee Henry
John C. Hughes

Abbott Washburn has been designated as Executive Secretary of the Committee.

The appointments of C. D. Jackson and Sigurd Larmon were respectively made after consultation with, and at the designation of, Mr. John Foster Dulles and Mr. Harold E. Stassen. A designee to represent the Secretary of Defense will be named to the Committee before the end of the month.

The Committee will have its offices at 901 Sixteenth Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely,

Honorable James S. Lay, Jr.
Executive Secretary
National Security Council
Washington 25, D. C.